ting assistance from the Centre to build houses;

(b) whether all the State Housing Boards have been recognised by the Central Government;

(c) if not, what are the names of the State Housing Boards not recognised by the Central Government and the reasons therefor;

(d) whether every State Housing Board is to be treated equally; and

(e) if so, the steps taken to stop discrimination?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DAULAT RAM SARAN): (a) No direct assistance is available from Central Government to the State Housing Boards to build houses. Financial assistance to the Housing Boards is provided in Annual Plans of State Governments according to their priorities. However, national financial institutions including HUDCO and commercial banks provide loans to Housing Boards.

(b) to (e) The State Housing Boards have been constituted by the respective State Govts. under State legislation and hence the question of their recognition by the Central Govt. or of any discrimination does not arise.

Drought Prone Areas

44. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the drought-prone areas in the different States;

(b) whether Government have drawn up any scheme for assisting farmers in the drought-prone areas;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether it has been implemented in Orissa and if so, to what extent farmers have been benefited as a result thereof in that State during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JAYANTILAL VIRCHANDBHAI SHAH): (a) to (d) The Drought Prone Areas Programme operates in 91 districts of 13 States, the details of which are placed at Annexure.

[*See* Appendix CLVII, Annexure No. 3]

Under the programme, activities relating to soil conservation, land development, water resources conservation and development, afforestation and pasture etc. are taken up within an identified watershed and subsidies are available for specified activities for eligible categories of farmers on the basis of norms laid down.

The programme is under implementation in Orissa in 39 blocks of 4 districts namely, Phulbani, Kalahandi, Bolangir and Sambalpur. The financial and physical achievements under this programme in Orissa for the last 3 years are given at Annexures II & III.

[*See* Appendix CLVII, Annexure No. 3]

Review of Crop Insurance Scheme

45. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to review the Crop Insurance Scheme;

(b) if so, on what lines;

(c) by when the above scheme is proposed to be reviewed; and

(d) the steps taken so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

(SHRI JAYANTILAL VIRCHANDBHAI SHAH): (a) to (d) No, Sir. The Government have already conducted a review of the Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (CCIS) and the following changes were introduced in the Scheme with effect from Kharif 1988:—

(a) The sum insured would be limited to Rs. 10,000 per farmer irrespective of the quantum of loan taken by the farmer.

(b) The total sum insured would be limited to 100 per cent of the crop loan.

Besides, from Rabi 1988-89 in addition to these changes, the level of indemnity for various crops was altered as per the following details, based on their categorisation according to risk:

Category	Variation in yield	Indemnity
Low . .	Upto 15%	90%
Medium . .	16–30%	80%
High . .	Above 30%	60%

Identification of travel circuits in Orissa

46. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have identified travel circuits in Orissa;

(b) if so, what are those travel circuits; and

(c) the steps taken for the development of those travel circuits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI USHA SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The following travel circuits have been identified in Orissa for phased development through the combined resources of the Central, State and Private Sectors:—

— Bhubaneshwar - Puri-Konark-Dhauli Ratnagiri-Lalitgiri - Udaygiri-Bhadrak Chandipur-Khiching-Joshipur (Simlipal) and back.

— Bhubaneswar-Chilka Lake-Gopalpur-on-Sea - Taptapani-Koraput-Bolangir-Jharsuguda - Angul-Tikkapara-Talcher-Bhubaneswar.

(c) Development of Tourism is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, Ministry of Tourism extends financial assistance on specific proposals based on their merit, availability of funds and interse priorities. During the Seventh Five Year Plan the following projects/ schemes were sanctioned:—

1. Water sports facilities at Chilka Lake

2. Yatri Niwases at Satpada and Konark

3. Boats for Nandankanan and Bhitarkanika Wildlife Santuary

4. Purchase of mini buses and elephants for Simlipal Wildlife Santuary

5. Open Air Theatre at Konark

6. Wayside facilities at Sunabeda, Taptapani, Angul, Rameshwar and Bhadrak.

7. Provision of toilet and drinking water facilities at Bhubaneswar and Konark

In addition, a number of projects/ schemes have been prioritised for financial assistance for strengthening tourism infrastructure in the State of Orissa during 1990-91.

Machine stitching of Food Bags

47. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total quantity of machine stitching of food-bags done